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Ministry of Attorney General

Province of
British Columbia

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Province of British Columbia

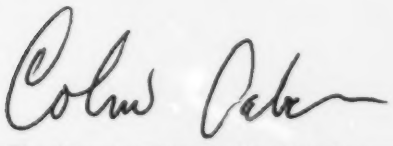
May It Please Your Honour:

It is my pleasure to submit to you the annual report of the Ministry of Attorney General of the Province of British Columbia for the period April 1, 1991, to March 31, 1992.

During the past year, the Ministry of Attorney General expanded through amalgamation and the addition of new program areas. We have worked to meet the challenge of a larger, more diverse ministry while continuing to improve access to the justice system for all citizens of British Columbia.

The year 1991-92 was the third and final year of the ministry's implementation of the initiatives outlined in the Justice Reform Committee's report. The goal of the initiatives was to achieve a more accessible, understandable, relevant, and efficient justice system.

In the year ahead, we will move forward to ensure that British Columbians can feel confident their justice system is fair and responsive to their needs.



The Honourable Colin Gabelmann

The Honourable Colin Gabelmann
Attorney General
Province of British Columbia

Sir:

I have the honour to submit the annual report of the Ministry of Attorney General for the fiscal year beginning April 1, 1991, and ending March 31, 1992.

This report is an important public record outlining the work of each branch of the ministry. It also highlights some significant accomplishments of the ministry in 1991-92.

The November 5, 1991 amalgamation of the previous Ministry of Solicitor General with the Ministry of Attorney General, as well as the inclusion of Liquor Control and Licensing, Liquor Distribution and Elections B.C. has made this a particularly significant year for the ministry and has increased the services and programs the ministry provides to British Columbians.

Throughout the ministry reorganization, staff have continued to provide a high standard of service to all client groups. I look forward to further accomplishment by the various branches of the ministry in the year ahead.

The commissions, boards and societies reported on here are required by statute to report annually, through you, to the legislature. This is not a substitute for those reports. Those commissions and boards will, in the ordinary way, as required, file an annual report.

E. Robert A. Edwards
Deputy Attorney General
November, 1992

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Ministry of Attorney General Organizational Chart

As of March 31, 1992

ATTORNEY GENERAL
Colin Gabelmann

DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL
E. Robert A. Edwards

Asst. Deputy Minister Management Services
David S. Duncan

- **A/Director** Policy & Program Services — *Carol Nugent*
- **Director** Finance & Administration — *Ian Smith*
- **Director** Comm. & Public Affairs — *Mary K. Beeching*
- **Director** Land Titles — *Malcolm McAvity*
- **Ex. Director** Information Technology Serv. — *Barry Morton*
- **Director** Employ. Equity & Women's Programs — *Anne Taylor*
- **Director** Film Classification Branch — *Mary-Lou McCausland*
- **Director** Public Gaming Branch — *Patti Stockton*
- **Public Trustee** — *Myrna Hall*

- **A/Director** Family Maint. Enforc. Prog. and Community Programs Div. — *Roy Dungey*
- **Director** Personnel Services Div. — *Ian Batey*
- **Director** Resource Planning & Analysis — *Rick McCandless*
- **Director** Internal Audit — *Allan Anderson*
- **A/Director** Facilities — *Brian Morin*
- **Chief Electoral Officer** — *Robert Patterson*
- **Director** Support Services for Agencies & Commissions — *Jo Thomson*

A/Asst. Deputy Attorney General Legal Services
Brian M. Neal

- **Solicitor's Division** Chief Solicitor — *Brian Neal*
- **A/Chief Legislative Counsel** — *Brian Greer*

- **Liquor Appeal Board** Chair, *Wallace Auerbach*
- **Expropriation Comp. Board** Chair, *Jack Heinrich*
- **B.C. Coroners Services** Chief Coroner, *Vince Cain*
- **B.C. Police Commission** Chair, *J. David Edgar*
- **Commercial Appeals Comm.** Chair, *Wallace Auerbach*
- **Motor Carrier Commission** Chair, *William Preston*
- **Criminal Injury Section** Gen. Counsel & Sec., *Ed Bates*
- **Law Reform Commission** Chair, *Arthur L. Close*
- **B.C. Board of Parole** A/Chair, *Helen M. Joe*
- **B.C. Gaming Commission** Chair, *R.M. (Dick) MacIntosh*
- **B.C. Racing Commission** Chair, *Carolyn Askew*
- **Motion Picture Appeal Board** Chair, *Vacant*
- **British Columbia Board of Review** Chair, *N.J. Prelypchan*

Asst. Deputy Attorney General Criminal Justice
William F. Stewart

- **Director** Operations — *Ernie Quantz*
- **Director** Policy & Legal Services — *Hal N. Yacowar*
- **Director** Criminal Appeals & Special Prosecutions — *Colin Sweeney*
- **Executive Crown Counsel** Native & Environmental — *Peter Ewert*
- **Regional Crown Counsel** Kamloops — *Herman Rohrmoser*
- **Regional Crown Counsel** Vancouver Island — *Robert W.G. Gillen*
- **Regional Crown Counsel** New Westminster — *Austin Cullen*
- **Regional Crown Counsel** Prince George — *J. Ray Hall*
- **Regional Crown Counsel** Vancouver — *Robert H. Wright*

Asst. Deputy Minister Court Services
Steven C. Rumsey

- **Executive Director** Management Services — *Don Rose*
- **Regional Director** Vancouver Island — *Harold Doucette*
- **A/Director** Vancouver Law Courts — *Richard Rondeau*
- **Regional Director** Vancouver — *Ben C. Holland*
- **Regional Director** Fraser — *Matthew Adie*
- **Regional Director** Interior — *Florence Gilbert*
- **Regional Director** North — *William Norton*
- **Director** Inspections & Standards — *Doris St. Germain*

General Manager
Liquor Distribution Branch
Ian C. Munroe
Executive Director
Purchasing, Comm. & Policy
Charles Ruddick
Executive Director
Store Operations
John Nieuwenberg
Chief Information Officer
Systems
Will Hopkins
Director
Loss Prevention
Jordan Bowcott
Director
Distribution
Bruce Wilkinson
Director
Personnel
Patrick Mulcahy
Executive Director &
Chief Financial Officer
Douglas Horner
Executive Secretary
Linda Burfoot
A/General Manager
Liquor Control and
Licensing Branch
Robert C. Simson
Deputy General Manager
Regional Operations
Ed Owsianski
Deputy General Manager
Special Operations
Judy Wayte
Deputy General Manager
Management Services
(Vacant)
Administrative Coordinator
Liquor Licensing Committee
Carole Gamble
Asst. Deputy Minister
Police Services Branch
R.P. (Val) Pattee
Director
Policing Policy & Programs
William McCullough
Director
Coordinated Law
Enforcement Unit
Pete Engstad
Director
Security Programs
Helen Pedneault
Director
Prov. Emergency Program
Tony Heemskerk
Resource Analyst
Brenda Forbes
Asst. Deputy Minister
Corrections Branch
Jim B. Graham
A/Director
Inspection & Standards
Tim Thimsen
Director
Resource Analysis
Carol MacKillop
Executive Director
Management Services
Brian Mason
Regional Director
Northern Region
Ben Stobbe
Regional Director
Interior Region
Bill Foster
A/Director
Program Analysis
Wendy Galloway
A/ Regional Director
Fraser Region
Ken McKeen
A/Regional Director
Vancouver Metro Region
Lynn Stevenson
Regional Director
Vancouver Island Region
Ted Harrison
Asst. Deputy Minister
Motor Vehicles Branch
Douglas B. Kopp
Regional Directors
Region #
1 J.D. McDicken
2 Rod Davey
3 Ray Jago
4 Harvey Monnette
5 Iain Brown
6 Howard Emslie
7 Vedder Morton
Executive Director
Operations
F. Peter Burleigh
A/Director
Licencing Programs &
Standards
Derek A. Prout
Executive Director
Policy & Program Development
(Vacant)
Director
Research Evaluation & Comm.
(Vacant)
A/Director
Traffic Safety Programs
Janice C. Schmidt
A/Director
Management Services
Craig J. Morris
Director
Operations Support
June V. Byers
Director
Commercial Transport
Murray J. Brown
Director
Planning & Corporate Development
(Vacant)
A/Director
Inspection & Carrier Safety
John F. Phillips
Director
Information Technology
Karen R. Dellert
Director
Commercial Transport
Programs & Standards
(Vacant)

The Justice Reform Committee was appointed by the provincial government in November 1987 and presented its report to the Attorney General in November 1988. The committee's Access to Justice report made a total of 182 recommendations for changes to the justice system of British Columbia to make it more accessible, understandable, relevant and efficient.

Now, three years later, almost all of the 182 Access to Justice recommendations have been put into place. In addition, we began several new initiatives not mentioned in the original report – but which are logical extensions of justice reform – and determined to make continual justice reform an integral part of our ministry operations.

Highlights: 1991-92

Efforts to make our justice system more accessible, relevant and efficient must extend beyond the boundaries of the Ministry of Attorney General to include other ministries and levels of government. During 1991-92, we continued to participate on a number of committees and projects designed to ensure good communication and comprehensive planning, including:

- the Interministerial Steering Committee on Native Justice Issues – with representatives from the RCMP and the Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs – established to address justice issues identified by aboriginal communities;
- a federal/provincial family law project studying the feasibility of child support guidelines based on the actual cost of raising children in Canada;
- the Interministerial Steering Committee on Family Law Issues, drawn together to develop new Family Court rules that will standardize Family Court procedures throughout British Columbia;
- appointing five additional Masters to hear certain pre-trial matters and enable Supreme Court Judges to spend more time on trials;
- appointing a full-time Registrar of the Supreme Court to develop and deliver training programs to Deputy Registrars around the province;

- evaluating the two-year Disclosure Court pilot project – which proved to substantially reduce court costs and inconvenience to witnesses – and developing plans to expand the Disclosure Court model to all larger courts in B.C.;
- creating permanent Bylaw and Traffic Adjudicators in both the Prince George and Kelowna courts to settle municipal bylaw and traffic ticket disputes;
- developing plans to install imaging technology in all Land Title offices and 10 Government Agent offices by 1994 (once installed, lawyers, notaries, real estate agents and banks will be able to receive copies of all documents stored in Land Title offices through their own computer workstations); and
- beginning the design and development of an Integrated Case Processing System to allow case information of all kinds – including initial case documentation, charge approval, case event processing, case management and trial scheduling – to be entered at one source, then shared electronically between the police, ministry branches and the judiciary.

Corrections Branch

Assistant Deputy Minister
Jim B. Graham

Responsibility

Corrections Branch operates adult correctional centres to provide facilities and services for all adults remanded in custody by the courts, along with men imprisoned for under two years. The opening of the Burnaby Correctional Centre for Women in 1991 – and the accompanying Exchange of Services Agreement with the federal government – has meant that British Columbia can also now accommodate all women sentenced to imprisonment, regardless of sentence length. Youth custody centres supervise all young persons remanded or sentenced to periods of open or secure custody.

Probation and Family Court Services provide reports to the court on offenders and disposition options. Accused persons are supervised on bail and offenders are supervised on diversion, probation and parole. The branch also provides: counselling and mediation services to people considering court intervention in marital or family disputes, and prepares custody and access reports for the court; and services to victims through Victim Offender Reconciliation Programs, and victim input into reports for the court and the Parole Board.

Highlights: 1991-92

Branch Development/ Training Project

This initiative involves staff at all levels in developing action plans for their work unit, and a new mission statement for the branch.

Changing Clientele/ Changing Programs

The Corrections Branch initiated research to document the changing profile of offenders and clients involved with the branch. Preliminary findings confirm that there has been a significant increase in the proportion of offenders suffering from mental disorder or substance abuse, or who have been convicted of sexual or other violent offences. These findings have prompted the development of new community and institutional programs for offenders, many of them delivered under contract by community professionals.

Community Education Involvement and Consultation

To promote public understanding and participation, the branch updated its selection of public information brochures and produced a video describing the work of the Corrections Branch. This video,

"Beyond the Bars: Corrections in Your Community" will be used as part of the branch's ongoing educational initiatives.

Community volunteers worked with adult and young offenders in institutions throughout the province during the year. Others participated in Citizen Advisory Committees, as well as the ongoing public consultation regarding the replacement of outdated Youth Custody Centres.

Service to the Community

During the 1991-92 year, offenders under supervision in the community completed 376,000 hours of work for non-profit organizations such as animal shelters and food banks. Young offenders at Boulder Bay Youth Custody Centre constructed trails in nearby forests, while inmates of Bear Creek Correctional Centre upgraded local recreational facilities.

Replacing Inadequate Facilities

The Lower Mainland Regional Correctional Centre (Oakalla) finally closed in 1991. The last of three smaller institutions which replace it was opened in July. Planning and consultation continued for the replacement of Victoria Youth Custody Centre and Willingdon Youth Custody Centre.

Programs for Aboriginal Offenders

Plans were made during the year to tender contracts for community attendance programs for young aboriginal offenders. In Hazelton a new probation office was opened in the Gitskan Wet'suwet'en Tribal Council building, staffed by an aboriginal probation officer. These initiatives supplemented some 50 other programs in which aboriginal communities and organizations are taking responsibility for aboriginal offenders.

Electronic Monitoring

With its expansion to major centres in the north and the interior, electronic monitoring became a truly provincial program in 1991-92. It played a significant role in safely managing unusually high prison counts experienced near the end of the fiscal year.

Family Court Counsellors

Over the past year, Family Court Counsellors received additional training to understand the effect of family violence on children, and specialized custody and access teams were established in several locations to more efficiently provide reports to the court.

Human Resource Development

The Corrections Academy provided over 130 courses for a total of 12,550 training days, in addition to comprehensive recruit training for new probation and correctional officers. The Corrections Academy also developed a new employment readiness program for individuals interested in a career as a correctional or security officer.

Interministry Cooperation

During 1991-92, the branch continued its support to the Interministry Child and Youth Secretariat and developed new partnerships with the Ministry of Health, and Ministry of Women's Equality to improve services to clients and offenders. Of particular note is the interministry development of treatment programs for men who have assaulted their partners.

Inspection and Standards

The Inspection and Standards Division ensures that the branch provides quality service in compliance with regulations and policies. During 1991-92, the division conducted 30 inspections of institutions, probation offices and contracted services, and dealt with 309 complaints from inmates and youths in custody, a three per cent increase in complaints over the last year. The division also handled 244 requests for review of correctional centre disciplinary hearings, a significant 33 per cent increase over the previous year.

Corrections Branch Average Caseload Statistics

	1990-91	1991-92
Adult Institutions		
Remand	311	367
Sentenced	1,459	1,532
TOTAL	**1,770**	**1,899**
Youth Custody		
Remand	52	47
Sentenced	263	254
TOTAL	**315**	**301**
Adult Community Services		
Diversion	-	337
Pretrial	1,972	2,350
Probation	9,996	10,605
Parole	355	321
TOTAL	**12,323**	**13,613**
Youth Community Services		
Diversion	550	487
Pretrial	362	430
Probation	3,733	3,855
TOTAL	**4,645**	**4,772**
Family Services	3,184	3,151

Assistant Deputy Minister
Steven C. Rumsey

Responsibility

The Court Services Branch is accountable to the Attorney General for providing court administration, sheriff and transcript services to all courts in British Columbia.

The branch is accountable to the Chief Justice of the Court of Appeal, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court and the Chief Judge of the Provincial Court for providing judicial administration independent of government.

Regional Court Services

Through six regional offices, the Court Services Branch provides B.C.'s 101 Provincial, 33 Supreme and three Appeal Court locations with:

- court administration services to receive, register, file and process documents; receive and administer fines, fees and trust monies; prepare and maintain court files; manage court facilities; and provide general administration inside the courtroom, including court clerks to set trial dates, record pleas and dispositions;
- judicial administration services to schedule trials; provide Justices of the Peace to hear bail applications and issue warrants; and supply Supreme and Small Claims Court Registrars to carry out limited judicial functions under the direction of the court;
- sheriff services to serve certain documents and to administer contracts for the execution of writs (seizing and disposing of the property of a debtor under the authority of a court order); to escort accused and convicted persons to and from the courts and between correctional facilities; to provide prisoner and courtroom security; to call citizens for jury duty and supervise jury deliberations; and
- transcript services to provide word for word copies of court proceedings, by either court reporters using shorthand or court recorders using audio equipment.

Branch Headquarters

Six units work out of Court Services Branch headquarters to support and enhance the regional delivery of court services:

- the Policy, Planning and Evaluation Section manages the development of policies and programs, monitors court trends

and recommends, designs and directs branch programs, projects, research studies and evaluations;

- the Business Analysis Group provides business analysis, re-engineers work system designs, and develops manuals and communication material;
- the Program and Project Implementation Section ensures that all branch programs and projects are effectively carried out, provides both leadership and support in the planning, implementation and maintenance of new branch projects and initiatives, and develops human resource management plans. The section also provides management and contractual direction to the delivery of public and legal education programs through the Law Courts Education Society;
- the Statistics Management Group collects data on court activity and produces information for managing workloads and resources, monitoring justice system performance, and for supporting policy analysis, program evaluation and judicial administration. In addition to producing regular statistical reports for a variety of clients, the group also responds to general inquiries about the operation of the court system;
- the Information Technology Planning Section develops tactical plans and strategies for the installation and use of new or improved computer technology; and
- the Inspections Program examines all aspects of branch operations, plans and implements financial, operational, statistical and human resource inspections and recommends changes to policies and procedures where appropriate.

Highlights: 1991-92

Small Claims Court Program

On February 25, 1991, the Small Claims Court Program was implemented throughout B.C.'s court system, providing plain language rules, brochures and forms to simplify Small Claims Court procedures and allow more people to pursue claims on their own, without a lawyer. Since then, Small Claims filings have increased by approximately 50 per cent, indicating significant public interest in the program.

Family Court Pilot Program

Eleven communities across B.C. took part in the Family Court pilot project from October 1, 1990 to March 31, 1992. The Court Services

Branch directed and managed the project, including the placement of Family Court Advisors to improve public information regarding the Family Court, the designation of Provincial Court Registries as Supreme Court Registries to file documents, and the addition of Family Court duty counsel to increase public access to legal aid.

Information Technology

In 1991-92, the Court Services Branch continued a major technology planning initiative designed to ensure that all courts are able to take advantage of automation to improve services to both the legal community and the public. Over the past year this initiative included planning for a model automated Court Registry in Vancouver and the development and installation of:

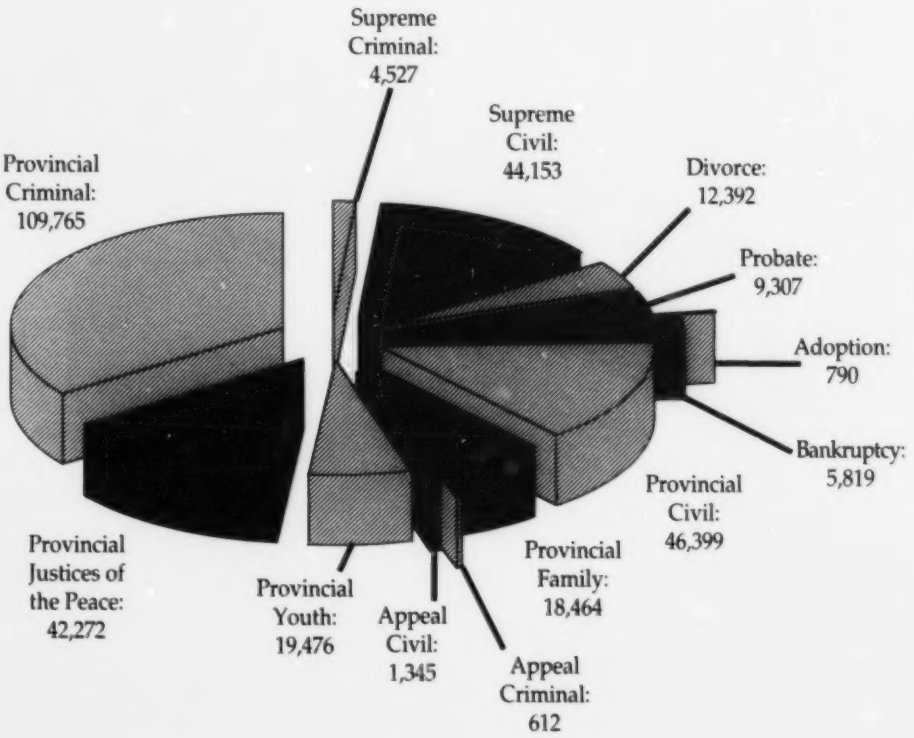
- a jury management system in more than 20 locations across the province which automatically selects jurors from the provincial voters list system, issues summonses, records court attendance, calculates juror payments and provides statistics on court activity;
- an expanded accounts receivable system in all 80 Court Registries across B.C. to record court fines, provide receipts for all payments made through court registries, and work with systems in the Motor Vehicle Branch to allow payments for, and disputes against, traffic violation tickets;
- an interactive expert system for Small Claims Court staff to serve as both a training tool and an "electronic" manual of law, policy and procedures; and
- an interactive touch-screen public information system to assist lay litigants through the Small Claims Court process, including guidance in completing forms.

Management Information

In 1991-92, the branch completed a project to upgrade existing technology used to store and access court data and design better ways to manipulate and present management information. The branch also began work on long-term plans to improve the integrity of court data, expand data coverage to include more data from the family and civil areas, and establish key statistical indicators to monitor the effectiveness of court and justice programs.

Total New Cases

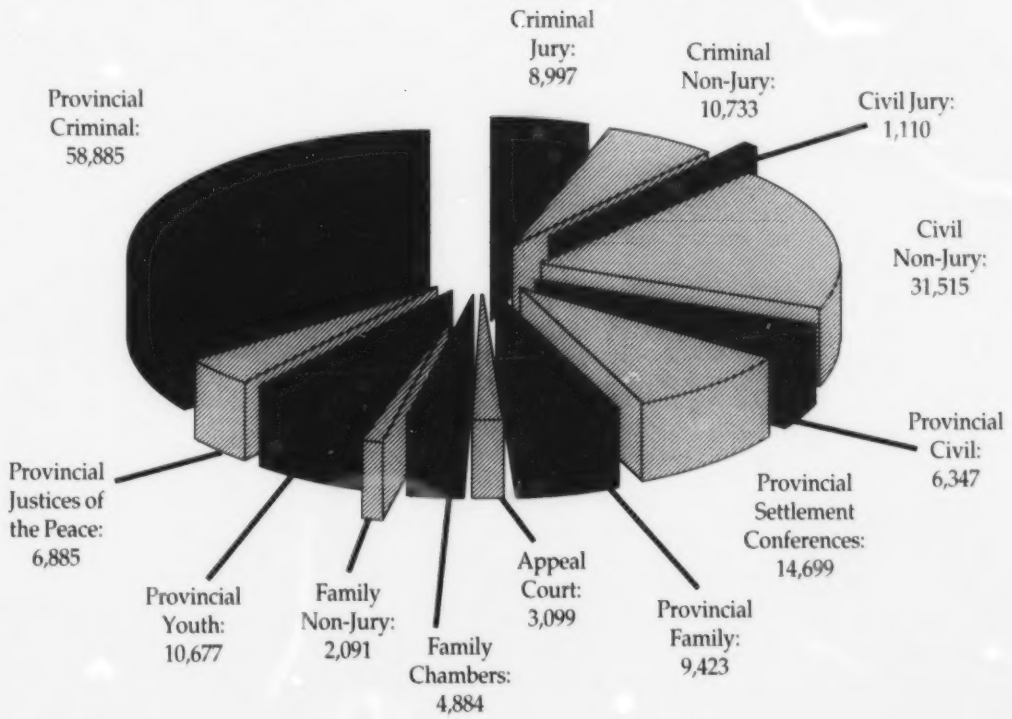
1991 - 92



Total New Cases = 315,321

Total Court Hours

1991 - 92



Total Hours = 169,345

REGIONAL MAP FOR COURTS

Region 1.
Vancouver Island Region

Region 2.
Vancouver Region

Region 3.
Fraser Region

Region 4.
Interior Region

Region 5.
Northern Region

Vancouver Law Courts

Assistant Deputy Attorney General
William F. Stewart

Responsibility

The Criminal Justice Branch prosecutes offences under the *Criminal Code* of Canada, the *Young Offenders Act*, provincial statutes and certain municipal bylaws in the Provincial, Supreme and Appeal Courts of British Columbia and in the Supreme Court of Canada. The branch also provides legal advice on criminal law to government ministries and the police, and develops policies and procedures on issues relating to the prosecution of criminal cases.

Branch Headquarters

Branch headquarters administers the Crown Counsel system, including the interprovincial transfer of criminal charges and notifications under the protection-of-privacy provisions of the *Criminal Code*.

Together with Crown Counsel throughout the province, branch headquarters analyzes new and established legislation and participates on a number of federal/provincial committees and task forces. Headquarters also coordinates responses to policy or case inquiries from the public and other government departments, and manages branch responses to aboriginal justice and environmental issues.

Regional Crown Counsel

Crown Counsel – lawyers who represent the interests of the state in a criminal case – conduct criminal prosecutions throughout British Columbia. Crown Counsel work out of 45 locations across the province, divided into five regions.

While most Crown Counsel will prosecute any kind of criminal case, a number of Crown Counsel are specifically designated to handle child sexual abuse, gang-related, environmental or commercial crime cases.

In all criminal cases, the duties of the Crown Counsel include deciding which charges to approve, which people to refer to diversion programs (alternatives to the traditional court system), and what information is required for presentation to the court at the time of sentencing.

Criminal Appeals and Special Prosecutions Office

Crown Counsel in the Criminal Appeals and Special Prosecutions office conduct criminal appeals to the British Columbia Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court of Canada. Counsel in this office may also be called in by Regional Crown Counsel to prosecute extremely difficult or complex cases.

Highlights: 1991-92

Crown Counsel Policy Manual

In 1991-92, the Criminal Justice Branch continued to revise and update the Crown Counsel Policy Manual published in 1990-91. This manual, designed to assist Crown Counsel in the consistent and effective prosecution of criminal cases throughout the province, establishes guidelines for the prosecution of cases ranging from child sexual and physical abuse and spousal assault, to civil disobedience, contempt of court, impaired driving and obscenity.

Policy Initiatives

The branch continued to refine its policy on disclosure of information to defence counsel to enable an accused person to prepare a full answer and defence to the charge. The branch also continued to refine policies on child sexual and physical abuse and spousal assault to include greater emphasis on appropriate charging practices, early trial scheduling for child sexual and physical abuse cases, and consideration for the victim and the victim's safety.

In addition, the branch developed the *Crown Counsel Act* to address policies related to Commissioner Owen's 1990 Discretion to Prosecute Inquiry report recommendation that the branch appoint a "special prosecutor" from the private criminal bar to handle certain cases, particularly those involving government officials. The new legislation also outlines the functions and responsibilities of the Criminal Justice Branch.

Other new policy initiatives over the past year included:

- participating on the interministerial Task Force on Family Violence and beginning a review of the recommendations contained in the task force report released in February 1992;
- beginning implementation of amendments to the *Criminal Code* of Canada which set out new procedures for dealing with people who are unfit to stand trial or who are found not guilty by reason of a mental disorder;

- beginning development of a uniform statement form to be used by the police in taking statements or confessions from young people;
- participating in training on the dynamics of sexual abuse of deaf persons in institutional settings; and
- participating in a federal/provincial study of victim impact statements. These statements are prepared by victims of crime to outline the impact the crime has had on their lives, and may be used by the court to determine an appropriate sentence.

Crown Counsel Victim/Witness Services

In 1991-92, Crown Counsel Victim/Witness Services expanded to Duncan, Kelowna, Nelson, Dawson Creek and Fort St. John. The branch also began drafting a policy and procedures manual for Crown Counsel Victim/Witness Services, and worked with the Policy and Program Services and Community Programs Divisions to establish a Child Witness Preparation Committee. The committee's mandate is to standardize child witness preparation procedures throughout the province, and the committee has now begun developing training materials for victim assistance workers, Crown Counsel and others involved in preparing child victims of sexual or physical abuse for court.

Disclosure Court Pilot Project

The Disclosure Court pilot project continued in the Vancouver Provincial Court in 1991-92. This project, designed to streamline the criminal court process, requires Crown Counsel to fully disclose case details to defence counsel early in the court process.

Preliminary evaluation of the Disclosure Court .nodel indicates that early disclosure can successfully decrease the number and length of preliminary inquiries and trials, and reduce costs and inconvenience to witnesses. Discussions on extending the pilot project to other areas of the province are continuing.

Aboriginal Justice Issues

In 1991-92, the Criminal Justice Branch continued a program for the use of diversion in aboriginal communities, where offenders who meet certain criteria are "diverted" from the Criminal Justice System if they agree to comply with various conditions or perform certain tasks.

Over the past year, the branch also continued to encourage Crown Counsel to place more creative sentencing options for aboriginal offenders before the courts. These options include referring the offender to native community programs as part of the sentence and seeking the advice of native elders and chiefs on specific sentencing matters. In addition, the branch encouraged the use of community victim impact statements within aboriginal communities. These statements allow information about the effects of a crime on the community to be collected by Crown Counsel and provided to the court when an offender is sentenced.

Environmental Issues

A team of six specially-designated Crown Counsel continued to prosecute most environmental cases in 1991-92. The Criminal Justice Branch also continued to work with the Ministry of Environment to develop new environmental law, policies and procedures to govern such issues as the enforcement of environmental legislation and aboriginal hunting and fishing activities. In addition, the branch trained enforcement officials and participated in public education programs dealing with environmental issues.

Civil Disorder Issues

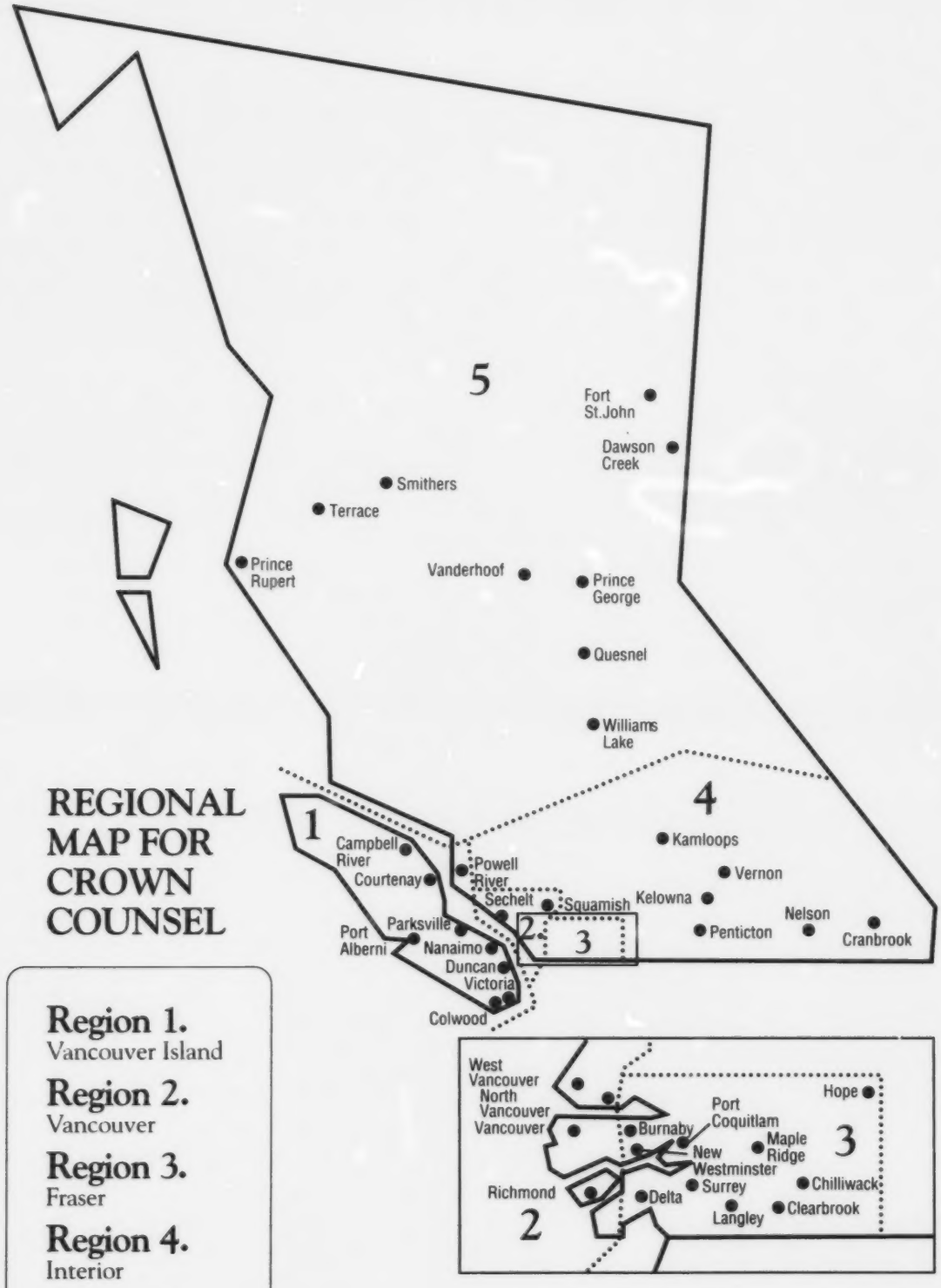
In 1991-92, the Criminal Justice Branch, in conjunction with the Legal Services Branch, developed and implemented a policy and protocol to deal with public civil disorder by using injunctions and contempt proceedings as well as prosecutions in appropriate cases.

Criminal Gangs

The Criminal Justice Branch continued to aggressively prosecute gang-related activity through the Gang Prosecution Unit. Crown Counsel in this unit identify, monitor and prosecute gang-related cases and work closely with police gang squads to ensure that gang-related crime continues to receive special attention.

The Assistant Deputy Minister also continued to chair the Interministry Committee on Criminal Gangs. Over the past year, this committee continued to develop new strategies for an integrated response by government, police, schools and community agencies to the problems and issues of criminal gangs.

REGIONAL MAP FOR CROWN COUNSEL



Region 1.
Vancouver Island

Region 2.
Vancouver

Region 3.
Fraser

Region 4.
Interior

Region 5.
Northern

Legal Services Branch

A/Assistant Deputy Attorney General
Brian M. Neal

Responsibility

The Legal Services Branch provides legal advice and services to government.

Barristers Division

The Barristers Division conducts lawsuits for and against the government in all areas of civil and constitutional law. Division lawyers appear for government ministries and agencies in every level of court, including the Supreme Court of Canada, and before tribunals, inquests, arbitration and other hearings.

Solicitors Division

Lawyers within the Solicitors Division negotiate and draft contracts, provide legal advice on government programs, policy and legislation, and legal representation before boards and commissions for government ministries and agencies.

Office of the Legislative Counsel

The Office of the Legislative Counsel prepares all government legislation, regulations and orders-in-council. The office also prepares all statutory publications, including Third Reading Bills, the Annual Volume and Table of Statutes, and looseleaf updates of revised statutes and regulations.

The Office of the Registrar of Regulations is part of the Office of the Legislative Counsel. This office receives and files all regulations deposited under the *Regulations Act*. The Order in Council Administration Office also operates as part of Legislative Counsel's staff and is responsible for the processing and recording of Cabinet orders.

Library Services

The Legal Services Branch operates full library services for the Ministry of Attorney General. The library maintains a central law and management collection and provides a provincewide legal reference service for government.

Highlights: 1991-92

Committees and Task Forces

Over the past year, the Legal Services Branch continued to participate in a federal/provincial family law project studying the feasibility of child support guidelines based on the actual costs of raising children in Canada. Branch members also participated on the Mental Health Act Review Committee and the Federal/Provincial Working Group on Gender Equality in the Canadian Justice System, and worked with the Interministerial Child and Youth Secretariat.

Legislation

In 1991-92, the Legal Services Branch prepared 32 draft Bills, including the:

- *Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act*, establishing a framework for access to government information and protection of specified personal information;
- *Crown Counsel Act*, adopting the recommendations of Commissioner Stephen Owen in his Discretion to Prosecute report; and
- *Medical Practitioner Fee for Service Apportionment Act*, establishing limits on payments to doctors.

Agreements

The branch negotiated and drafted a number of contracts for government ministries and agencies over the past year, including agreements between the former Ministry of Solicitor General and a B.C. contractor to provide emission control monitoring services to the Motor Vehicle Branch, and the province and the RCMP to provide ongoing police services.

Liquor Control and Licensing Branch

A/General Manager
Robert C. Simson

Responsibility

The Liquor Control and Licensing Branch is responsible for issuing and transferring licenses for the sale of liquor and for licensing breweries, distilleries, wineries and their agents. The branch also approves and monitors product advertising, inspects licensed premises to ensure they comply with the law, and takes appropriate disciplinary action against licensees for contravention of the *Liquor Control and Licensing Act* and Regulations.

Licensing

There are nine licence categories in B.C.

"A" Licences:	Hotels, resorts, clubs, recreational centres, aircraft, trains, motor vessels, airports, municipally- and provincially-owned cultural centres, universities and military messes.
"B" Licences:	Dining establishments engaged in the service of food.
"C" Licences:	Cabarets primarily engaged in providing entertainment.
"D" Licences:	Neighbourhood public houses.
"E" Licences:	Sport stadiums or concert halls.
"F" Licences:	Establishments oriented to marine activities (marine public houses).
"G" Licences:	Licensee retail (beer and wine) stores.
"H" Licences:	Licensee retail stores issued to non-conforming hotels.
"I" Licences:	Restoration public houses.

Inspection and Enforcement

Five regional senior inspectors and 24 inspectors serve British Columbia licensees from 13 offices located throughout the province.

Inspectors are responsible for overseeing the conduct of all licensed establishments to ensure their operations are in compliance with the *Liquor Control and Licensing Act* and Regulations. Inspectors also assist applicants through the licensing process, liaise with municipalities, fire inspectors, health inspectors and other government agencies, monitor licensed establishments and investigate complaints.

Situations which may result in enforcement proceedings include service to minors, service after hours, over-service of patrons, serving liquor without food in restaurants, and problems associated with entertainment (usually those which cause or contribute to lack of control in an establishment). Enforcement action could result in a restriction, suspension or cancellation of liquor licence privileges.

Highlights: 1991-92

There were a total of 6,482 licensed premises in British Columbia as of March 31, 1992. During fiscal year 1991-92, 6,197 licences were renewed, 470 new licences were issued, and 185 licenses were cancelled.

Annual Licensing

In the past, all liquor licences expired on March 31 of each year. On December 12, 1991, however, the Liquor Control and Licensing Regulation 2 was amended to allow pro-rated licence fees and anniversary licensing – scheduled for full implementation on April 1, 1992 – to spread the renewal process over the calendar year, provide better service and keep costs down.

Under the amended legislation, the branch assigned anniversary dates on advice from branch inspectors. These dates take into consideration geographic and weather conditions, and the seasonal operation of some establishments. In January 1992, the branch sent licence renewal forms to all existing licensees showing the new anniversary licence expiry date along with the pro-rated renewal fee, reflecting a four- to 15-month "transition" period licence.

Once the transition period is complete, approximately one-twelfth of the province's 6,482 licences will expire on the last day of each month and licences will be renewed for a 12-month period. New licences issued throughout the fiscal year will be assigned an anniversary date and charged a pro-rated fee until the assigned anniversary date is reached.

The Annual Inspection Program

Over the past year, the branch also developed an annual inspection program in conjunction with anniversary licensing. Starting in the 1992-93 fiscal year, the goal is that all licensed establishments in the province will be inspected by a branch inspector in the three-month period prior to the expiry of their liquor licenses.

New Payment System

Effective January 1992, Government Agents throughout the province began accepting payment of liquor licence fees on behalf of the Liquor Control and Licensing Branch. Government Agents now issue a payment receipt to licensees and forward renewal applications to the branch for processing. Licensees post their payment receipt with their expired licence as proof of payment, enabling them to continue to serve and sell liquor until the new licence arrives from Victoria.

The Designated Driver Program

The Designated Driver program was announced September 6, 1991. This program enables qualified licensees to apply to the branch for an endorsement to their licenses that permits a number of designated drivers to be present in the licensed area, over and above the patron capacity noted on the face of the liquor licence. The endorsement permits up to a 10 per cent increase in patron capacity. Qualified licensees are required to ensure that the designated drivers are not served liquor, and to maintain a register of designated drivers with time-in time-out controls.

Liquor Distribution Branch

General Manager
Ian C. Munroe

Responsibility

The Liquor Distribution Branch is responsible for the distribution, wholesaling and retailing of beverage alcohol products in British Columbia.

Distribution

The branch distributes beverage alcohol products through three warehouse/distribution centres: the main Vancouver Distribution Centre, the Kamloops Distribution Centre serving the Interior region, and a smaller distribution centre in Richmond which handles drygoods and stationery for the branch's head office and retail store system.

Wholesaling

The branch acts as a wholesaler of beverage alcohol products to more than 245 Licensee Retail stores ("cold beer and wine stores") and more than 6,400 licensed establishments throughout the province.

Retailing

In addition to operating more than 200 government liquor stores, the branch oversees the operations of a variety of retail stores across B.C., including:

- rural agency stores, providing service in smaller communities where it is not feasible to operate a government liquor store;
- industry agency stores, operated by the B.C. liquor industry at wineries, breweries, distilleries and several off-site locations; and
- private wine stores, including tourist wine shops.

Highlights: 1991-92

With more than 41 million customer transactions over the past year, and total sales of $1.3 billion, the Liquor Distribution Branch continued to operate the largest retail/distribution network in the province.

During the 1991-92 fiscal year, branch sales at display increased by three per cent. The branch's net income of $455.5 million in 1991-92 represents a 2.3 per cent increase over the previous year.

Anti-Alcohol Abuse Initiatives

In 1991-92, the Liquor Distribution Branch continued to promote the moderate and responsible use of the products it sells by participating in a variety of anti-alcohol abuse initiatives, including the TRY program and the CounterAttack drinking-driving campaign as well as a number of programs aimed at underage drinkers, drug awareness and fetal alcohol syndrome.

Customer Service

Over the past year, the branch introduced a toll-free 1-800 number – staffed by highly knowledgeable product consultants – to provide the public with product and service information. This toll-free line allows customers from across the province to access information on everything from what wine to serve with certain foods, to how to find a particular hard-to-find product in our retail system.

The branch also introduced a Specialty Stores program, offering a variety of new services, including three-minute wine chillers, customer tastings of premium products and more product consultants on the floor.

Assistant Deputy Minister
David S. Duncan

General Responsibility

Eight divisions work under the direction of the Assistant Deputy Minister, Management Services, to provide internal operational support – including policy, financial, resource planning, audit, facilities, personnel, communications and information technology services – for all branches of the ministry, and its boards and commissions.

The Management Services Branch is responsible for the Office of the Public Trustee, the Land Title Branch, the Film Classification Branch, Elections British Columbia and the Public Gaming Branch. The branch also administers the provincial Victim Assistance and Family Maintenance Enforcement Programs, provides support services to the ministry's agencies and commissions, develops ministry-wide employment equity and women's programs, and promotes ministry-wide service quality initiatives.

Communications and Public Affairs Division

Responsibility

The Communications and Public Affairs Division manages the planning, development, implementation and evaluation of ministry communications projects and services, including advertising and media relations. In addition, the division coordinates responses to the Attorney General's correspondence; handles applications for Notaries Public and Commissioners for Taking Affidavits; processes ministry orders-in-council and ministerial appointments; and works directly with the Attorney General's office to coordinate public launches of new ministry programs and materials and to prepare the minister's speeches for public events.

Highlights: 1991-92

Over the past year, the Communications and Public Affairs Division continued to provide a full range of communications services to ministry divisions, branches and agencies while working to amalgamate the communications functions of the merged Ministries of Attorney General and Solicitor General. This merger and the addition of the Liquor Distribution Branch, the Liquor Control and Licensing Branch and Elections B.C. resulted in the creation of a new

Associate Director position within the division. The Associate Director is responsible for managing the division's day-to-day operations.

Community Programs Division

Responsibility

The Community Programs Division manages justice-related services and programs operated at the community level by private organizations and non-profit agencies, including contracts for a variety of community-based victim assistance programs and three community legal assistance and public legal education programs:

- the Native Courtworker and Counselling Association assists Native British Columbians accused of a crime to understand the charges, find legal counsel and obtain bail;
- the Victoria Dispute Resolution Centre provides alternate dispute resolution services – alternatives to court in settling small claims and other minor civil disputes – in the Victoria area; and
- the Public Legal Education Society conducts free law classes throughout the province to inform citizens of their rights and responsibilities under the law; publishes brochures and produces videos offering simple explanations of important legal issues; and produces the annual Justice Theatre at the Pacific National Exhibition in Vancouver.

In addition, the Director of Community Programs Division is also the Director of Maintenance Enforcement, responsible for the operations of the Family Maintenance Enforcement program and the Maintenance Enforcement Information Search Unit (MEIS). MEIS searches for missing parents in order to settle such family law matters as child or spousal support, child custody, access or guardianship.

Highlights: 1991-92

Family Maintenance Enforcement

The Family Maintenance Enforcement Program (FMEP) enrols, monitors and enforces maintenance orders and agreements that require separated or divorced spouses to continue providing financial support for their families.

As of March 31, 1992, the FMEP was handling 17,600 enrolled cases, an increase of 30 per cent over 1990-91. To enforce maintenance orders in default, the program carried out 14,337 administrative actions in 1991-92 – 76.5 per cent more than in the previous year – including default letters, notices of attachment of wages and liens on property.

In addition, the program received 158,972 telephone inquiries over the past year. To respond to this challenge, and help Enforcement Officers spend more time on actual enforcement, the FMEP developed an Interactive Voice Response system to give callers automated access to payment and enforcement information from their files.

Specialized Victim Assistance

The Community Programs Division monitors and manages contracts for 33 specialized victim assistance programs – community-based programs dealing specifically with the victims of wife assault, sexual assault and child sexual abuse – and the toll-free Victims Information Line (1-800-VICTIMS). The division also monitors and manages contracts for victim/witness services offered through the Salvation Army and six Sexual Assault Centres, which provide counselling to the victims of sexual assault and 24-hour telephone crisis lines.

Caseloads for specialized victim assistance programs continued to rise over the last year. In response to this increased demand, six additional programs for victims of wife assault, sexual assault and child sexual abuse were added in 1991-92, raising the number of programs from 27 to 33, while funding for existing specialized victim assistance programs was substantially increased.

Elections British Columbia

Responsibility

Elections B.C. administers all provincial general elections, referendums/plebiscites, byelections, enumerations, voter registration and voter awareness programs. Staff direct the registration of voters, update the provincial voters list daily, and maintain B.C.'s electoral maps. They also prepare and update elections forms and training manuals, provide training materials and direct training sessions for all election and registration officials.

Highlights: 1991-92

Elections British Columbia conducted a registration drive in June 1991 which included an advertising campaign to increase public awareness about voter registration opportunities. Approximately 150 temporary voter registration booths in shopping malls and community centres were opened across the province. The drive resulted in Elections B.C. adding an additional 41,000 voters to the provincial voters list system. Elections B.C. also registered a total of 189,581 new voters during the October 1991 general election and developed new policies and procedures, documents and training programs for the first provincial referendum since 1916.

Employment Equity and Women's Programs Division

Responsibility

The Employment Equity and Women's Programs Division is responsible for the development and implementation of the government-wide Employment Equity program, designed to create a workforce which reflects the diversity of British Columbia's population. The ministry's previously developed Women's Programs Action Plan has been strengthened and linked with this new ministry initiative.

Highlights: 1991-92

The Employment Equity and Women's Program Division has established two committees – the Women's Programs Advisory Committee and the Employment Equity Steering Committee – to provide advice and draft action plans for program development. Both committees are comprised of representatives from all branches of the ministry. Over the past year, the division delivered nine "Taking Charge of Your Career" courses and 15 noon-hour sessions on various topics of interest to women in the ministry. The division also organized a "Sharing the Workplace" conference for 250 employees.

Facilities Services Division

Responsibility

The Facilities Services Division provides advice and services for facilities planning and development to ensure that the ministry's operations are housed in the most cost-effective and efficient manner.

Highlights: 1991-92

Over the past year, the Facilities Services Division assisted with the development of 500 projects, ranging from minor building improvements and staff moves to multi-million dollar capital building projects, including the replacement of the Lower Mainland Regional Correctional Centre. In addition, the renovated Surrey courthouse opened with 10 new courtrooms in April 1991, while the new Surrey Pretrial Service Centre opened in June 1991.

Film Classification Branch

Responsibility

The Film Classification Branch regulates the public exhibition and distribution of films and videos in B.C. The branch reviews all films to be publicly exhibited and all adult videos sold or rented through video retail outlets, and may refuse to approve the exhibition or distribution of a film or video or may order the removal of prohibited material. The branch also assigns warning captions describing potentially objectionable material as part of a film's classification, licenses theatres, film and video distributors and video retailers, and conducts regular inspections of theatres and video outlets.

Highlights: 1991-92

Over the past year, the Film Classification Branch reviewed 837 adult videos for retail distribution and 471 films and videos for public exhibition. The branch also issued new licenses to 462 premises and renewed 1,647 licenses. Revenues from licensing and approval fees totalled $1,029,195.20, an increase of $101,824.20 over the previous year. In addition, branch inspectors seized approximately 629 improperly identified adult videos from retail outlets, many of which contained material prohibited under Section 5(3) of the *Motion Picture Act*.

Finance and Administration Division

Responsibility

The Finance and Administration Division processes all ministry financial transactions (including payroll), prepares financial management reports of ministry operations, develops financial policies, procedures and systems, and provides professional financial management services. The division also coordinates a

number of administrative support services, including vehicle and records management, mail and purchasing.

Highlights: 1991-92

In 1991-92, the Finance and Administration Division was able to maintain good levels of service and support during the ministry reorganization. This meant maintaining existing services to all branches of both the Ministry of Attorney General and Solicitor General, while working to integrate the management of the merged Finance and Administration Divisions and adding services for several new branches from other ministries.

Information Technology Services Division

Responsibility

The Information Technology Services Division acquires, develops and coordinates ministry information systems and provides daily operational support for the ministry's minicomputers and networks. The division is also responsible for developing policies and planning for the use of emerging technologies in program delivery and for technology standards and quality control.

Highlights: 1991-92

In 1991-92, the Information Technology Division's primary focus was to maintain high levels of service and support for technology users during the ministry reorganization. This meant developing plans for amalgamating 24 distinct system architectures and 70 separate custom applications into one cohesive and efficient unit, while maintaining existing services and support to all branches of the merged Ministries of Attorney General and Solicitor General and adding services for several new branches from other ministries.

Internal Audit Division

Responsibility

The Internal Audit Division performs regular and special audits of ministry branches and programs. Regular audit assignments include identifying and evaluating financial and management controls within a branch or program, while special audits target specific areas, such as computer systems or the efficiency and effectiveness

of a particular program's service delivery. The division also performs investigative audits as needed for possible fraud, impropriety or loss of assets.

Highlights: 1991-92

Over the past year, the Internal Audit Division issued 11 audit reports and initiated eight other audit assignments, including audits in the Criminal Justice, Court Services, Motor Vehicles, and Police Services Branches. The division also provided functional direction to contractors on five federal/provincial claim audits, conducted a special audit of the Corrections Administration Records Entry System (CARE), used by the Corrections Branch to assist in administering records at correctional centres throughout the province, and finalized reports on a number of investigative audits. Where appropriate, these audit reports were turned over to the RCMP for criminal investigation.

Land Title Branch

Responsibility

The Land Title Branch maintains a register of ownership and other interests in land, and issues certificates confirming land ownership. The branch also creates titles to new land brought into the system by the Crown or new land parcels created by subdivision, and provides public search facilities to land title records. Through a land title search, a prospective buyer can determine who owns the land and any interests – such as mortgages, rights of way, restrictions or easements – currently registered against the land.

Highlights: 1991-92

During 1991-92, the Land Title Branch received 1,169,000 applications and collected $42.9 million in registration and search fees. In addition, the branch worked to evaluate a project proposal for the re-design of its business and computer systems, to include the installation of imaging technology – a method of entering, storing and reproducing "pictures" of land title documents – in all Land Title offices and 10 Government Agent offices by 1994. Once installed, lawyers, notaries, real estate agents and banks will be able to receive copies of all documents stored in Land Title offices through their own computer workstations. The project was ultimately approved by government, and work will begin in May 1992.

Office of the Public Trustee

Responsibility

The Office of the Public Trustee protects the legal rights and financial interests of children, vulnerable adults, and the estates of deceased and missing persons. This may also involve assistance in making personal and health care decisions for adults.

Highlights: 1991-92

In 1991-92, the Office of the Public Trustee managed total assets valued at $392 million. The office held a number of public information sessions to improve public awareness and introduced a new complaints mechanism to quickly bring the concerns of clients and their families to the attention of the Public Trustee. The office established guidelines for client referrals and implemented a new process for issuing a Certificate of Incapability for an adult who is unable to manage his or her own affairs, designed to ensure greater protection of the adult's fundamental rights. The office also continued to work with community and government agencies to develop new adult guardianship legislation which will maximize self-determination for adults who are mentally incapable as the result of illness, injury or disability.

Personnel Services Division

Responsibility

Through six operational offices, the Personnel Services Division provides advice and service to the Ministry of Attorney General in all areas of personnel administration. Personnel administration includes labour relations, employee recruitment and selection, job classification and organization, policy development, occupational health and safety, and general human resource management.

Highlights: 1991-92

The Personnel Services Division developed and delivered a number of employee workshops for ministry staff in 1991-92 on such topics as "The Staffing Process Within the Public Service" and "Job Description Writing and Job Evaluation," and to introduce ministry staff to the government-wide Pay Equity Initiative. The division also worked to build a ministry employment equity mandate and action plan, began an organization and classification study of the administrative group within the Corrections Branch, worked to reclassify Probation Officers, developed a ministry-wide Sexual

Harassment Policy, and found job placements for 29 displaced Motor Vehicle Branch employees.

Policy and Program Services Division

Responsibility

The Policy and Program Services Division provides policy analysis and policy advice on ministry operations and prepares and manages the ministry's legislation program. The division coordinates the Victim Assistance Program of British Columbia and designs, develops and manages a variety of justice-related programs and projects to address social and justice issues such as family violence, gangs, gender equity in the justice system, aboriginal justice, public legal education and plain language in law.

Highlights: 1991-92

The Victim Assistance Program

The Victim Assistance Program of British Columbia is designed to provide victims of crime with information, practical assistance and emotional support through Crown Counsel offices [see Criminal Justice Branch], local police departments [see Police Services Branch] and community agencies across B.C. [see Community Programs Division]. Corrections Branch manages the victim/offender reconciliation component of this program [see Corrections Branch].

The Policy and Program Services Division coordinated the addition of 11 new programs over the past year, bringing the total number of separate victim assistance programs to 106 in 1991-92. The division also completed planning for the National Conference on Victimization, held in Victoria in March 1992 and attended by 795 delegates from across Canada and the United States.

The Wife Assault Coordination Project

The Policy and Program Services Division continued to monitor and manage six pilot programs contracted with community agencies for the Wife Assault Coordination Project, designed to coordinate the activities of all social service and justice agencies responding to incidents of wife assault within the community and to ensure that each case of wife assault is consistently dealt with by the proper authorities.

Aboriginal Justice

In 1991-92, the division provided a staff member to assist the Provincial Steering Committee on Native Justice Issues – comprised of representatives from the RCMP and the Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs as well as representatives from various branches of the Ministry of Attorney General – in coordinating liaison with 27 local Native Justice Coordinators across the province. The division also managed 11 continuing community-based projects operated by aboriginal agencies or governments, including five Native Justice Worker programs, three native victim assistance programs, and three programs responding to the unique needs of the Ehattesaht Tribe, the Gitskan-Wet'suwet'en, and the Chilcotin people.

Family Law

In 1991-92, the division participated in projects intended to reform family law and improve the delivery of family justice services. These projects included developing new Family Court rules, producing a discussion paper on child support guidelines, and establishing an interministerial working group to consult with the public on family justice issues.

Small Claims Court Program

After one full year of operation, the Policy and Program Services Division began an evaluation of the Small Claims Court Program [see Court Services Branch] to determine if the program is meeting its objectives and to identify areas which require attention. The evaluation will be completed in the 1992-93 fiscal year.

Public Legal Education

In 1991-92, the Policy and Program Services Division provided funding, with the federal Department of Justice, to expand the People's Law School programming to provide greater service to multicultural and rural communities. As well, the division contributed funding to the school's Justice Theatre production at the Pacific National Exhibition. The Law Courts Education Society delivered programs in the Interior, Fraser Valley, Lower Mainland West and Northern Regions and continued to develop plans for new regional programs on Vancouver Island. The society also delivered a number of aboriginal and multicultural cross-cultural workshops for justice system personnel, and initiated a comparative justice consultation project. [Court Services Branch assumed core funding of the society during 1991-92.]

Program Support Services

Responsibility

The Program Support Services Division coordinates the relationship between government and the ministry's boards and commissions. The division is responsible for helping boards and commissions improve services and resolve administrative problems, preparing orders-in-council and supporting documentation for the appointment of members to boards and commissions, and managing core funding grants to non-government agencies providing justice services in support of the ministry's mission and goals.

Public Gaming Branch

Responsibility

The Public Gaming Branch makes recommendations to the B.C. Gaming Commission on charitable gaming policy and sets gaming standards. The branch regulates the operation of bingo and casino operators who provide facilities and equipment to licensed charities, and regulates various types of gaming at fairs, exhibitions and social clubs. The branch processes all applications for gaming licences, makes recommendations to the B.C. Gaming Commission to approve, amend or deny licences, and enforces the terms and conditions of licences. The branch also monitors all gaming activity through inspections, audits and investigations of irregularities and suspected violations, liaises with police and other provincial and U.S. state jurisdictions on public gaming activity and, along with the B.C. Lottery Corporation, sets standards for the control and distribution of bingo paper.

Highlights: 1991-92

During the 1991-92 year, the branch received 8,072 applications and issued 5,855 gaming licences along with 1,768 amendments to licences. The branch also revised the Casino Standard Procedures (in effect October 1, 1991); revised the Bingo Standard Procedures (to come into effect in 1992-93); significantly improved the electronic system for application and licence tracking; and introduced streamlined financial reporting requirements for licensees.

Statistical Information

GAMING PROCEEDS ($ Millions)	1990-91	1991-92
BINGO		
Gross Revenue	$ 230.1	$ 219.5
Prize Payout	128.8	121.1
Administrative Costs	33.1	36.9
Charitable Proceeds	64.4	61.5
License Fees	3.8	3.4
CASINO		
Gross Revenue	$ 193.9	$ 213.4
Player Payout	143.6	164.1
Administrative Costs	20.1	21.9
Charitable Proceeds	25.2	27.4
License Fees	5.0	5.5
TICKET RAFFLES		
Gross Revenue	$ 24.1	$ 32.7
Prize Payout	9.2	15.9
Administrative Costs	3.9	4.3
Charitable Proceeds	10.6	12.5
License Fees	0.4	0.5
OTHER		
Gross Revenue	$ 12.0	$ 13.6
Charitable Proceeds	3.3	3.7
License Fees	0.6	0.8
TOTAL - ALL LICENSES		
Gross Revenue	$ 460.1	$ 479.2
Charitable Proceeds	103.5	105.1
License Fees	9.8	10.2

LICENSES ISSUED	1990-91	1991-92
Bingo	2,132	2,242
Casino	2,213	2,532
Ticket Raffles	786	877
Other	187	204
TOTAL	**5,318**	**5,855**

Resource Planning and Analysis Division

Responsibility

The Resource Planning and Analysis Division provides centralized resource planning, management information and program evaluation to aid the ministry's senior managers in planning and decision-making. This includes providing specialized research and analytical services, developing the annual ministry budget request, making recommendations to the Executive Committee on funding allocations for each ministry program, monitoring program expenditures, coordinating the development of statistical and management information for Executive Committee, and reviewing and evaluating ministry programs.

Highlights: 1991-92

In 1991-92, the Resource Planning and Analysis Division established or refined the definition of key indicators (measures of service which best reflect the activities and programs on which budget forecasting is based) for each of the ministry's programs; continued to develop a Motor Vehicle Branch management information system and developed an information system for tracking building occupancy charges. The division also produced several program evaluations, including one for the Criminal Injury Compensation program, and began a review of the Victim Assistance programs.

Service Quality

Objectives

In August 1990, the Council of Deputy Ministers agreed to initiate a provincewide program to promote customer service and quality management in the B.C. public service. The objectives of Service Quality B.C. are:

- to improve service to the public;
- to delegate more authority to those delivering direct services to the public;
- to increase innovation and productivity through the reduction of red tape;
- to build management improvement partnerships between ministries and central agencies, Crown corporations and external organizations; and
- to achieve management excellence in the public service of British Columbia.

The Ministry of Attorney General created a Service Quality Council composed of representatives from each of the branches within the ministry and appointed a service quality coordinator to sit on an interministerial committee to share experiences and skills in implementing the service quality concepts.

Highlights: 1991-92

Service quality initiatives within this fiscal year included a staff survey by the Criminal Justice Branch, extensive staff input into strategic planning within the Legal Services Branch, creation of the expressway Motor Vehicle office in Burnaby, plain language forms and brochures in courts, and quality circles (where front-line staff make suggestions for improving working conditions) within the Victoria Land Title office.

Due to the success of the program, a spokesperson from the ministry was invited to present the program to other jurisdictions, including the Department of Taxation for the State of Washington and the Alberta Court Managers group.

Motor Vehicle Branch

Assistant Deputy Minister
Douglas B. Kopp

Responsibility

The Motor Vehicle Branch promotes the safe and efficient movement of people and resources within the provincial transportation system. The branch regulates drivers, vehicles and motor carriers; registers licences and sets safety standards for vehicles; sets driver standards and licenses drivers by class; administers enforcement and compliance programs; and levies and collects fees, fines and other taxes.

Driver Services Division

The Driver Services Division is responsible for monitoring driver performance; examining the ability of applicants to safely operate motor vehicles; maintaining driving records; recording traffic accident reports; licensing driver training school operators and instructors; administering the driver medical review program; issuing driver's licence and B.C. identification cards (BCIDs); and keeping a register of organ donors.

Vehicle Services Division

The Vehicle Services Division is responsible for vehicle licence, registration and ownership records; the manufacture and control of number plates, validation decals, branch revenue receipts and permits; commercial vehicle licensing with other jurisdictions; the field office program; the snowmobile registration system; and policy communication with ICBC.

Commercial Transport Division

The Commercial Transport Division provides technical and policy direction to regional operations, which operate 38 permanent weigh scales and 26 portable patrol units throughout the province. All commercial trucks must be checked at the weigh scales to ensure vehicles and loads meet the requirements of their licences or permits, and fines are imposed on those exceeding their authorized limits. Vehicle inspectors and trained police officers also conduct dangerous goods inspections to ensure the safety of the public and the environment.

Motor Carrier Division

The *Motor Carrier Act* requires commercial carriers to be licensed; extraprovincial authority is regulated through the federal *Motor Vehicle Transport Act*. The Motor Carrier Division implements the decisions of the Motor Carrier Commission on licences and policy

and coordinates motor carrier licensing programs related to legal authorities, rates and time schedules.

Information Technology Services Division

The Information Technology Services Division develops and maintains branch information systems and applications, including the Driver Licensing, Vehicle Licensing, Automated Vehicle Inspection, and Motor Carrier Licensing systems. The division also supports projects such as Vehicle Emission Inspection (AirCare), Revenue Management, and the Driver Examination Appointment System.

Management Services Division

The Management Services Division provides administrative support, planning, human resources and training, central policy and financial functions to the Motor Vehicle Branch, the Superintendent and executive offices, and seven regional offices throughout the province.

Road Safety Division

The Road Safety Division aims at reducing the frequency and severity of traffic accidents; recommends policy on road safety; develops new concepts and programs; analyzes accident data; and distributes public information on such issues as bicycle safety, seat belts, and child restraints.

Inspection and Carrier Safety Division

The Inspection and Carrier Safety Division coordinates National Safety Code administration; school bus inspection and permitting; licensing and auditing of inspection facilities in the Private and Commercial Vehicle Inspection Programs; and examination of commercial and private vehicles involved in serious or fatal accidents. In addition, vehicle inspectors inspect vehicles at private inspection facilities, provide expert testimony in the evaluation of technical evidence before the courts and issue permits for equipment such as red and amber flashing lamps.

Highlights: 1991-92

In 1991-92, the Motor Vehicle Branch monitored 2,769,568 commercial vehicles; issued 2,562,840 commercial vehicle permits; received a total of 2,987 licence applications from commercial carriers; and issued a total of 3,307 school bus permits – 2,922 were

renewals, 385 were new. The branch also licensed 156 additional private inspection facilities and approved 40 additional preventative maintenance facility programs for a total of 1,546 inspection facilities and 705 preventative maintenance programs operating throughout the province. The branch performed a total of 109,369 inspections at the inspection facilities.

Drinking Driving CounterAttack Program

During 1991-92, the Motor Vehicle Branch assumed responsibility for the administration of the Drinking Driving CounterAttack Program. Since the program began, the proportion of alcohol-related traffic accidents has been reduced by an estimated 50 per cent, representing annual savings of about $100 million in insurance, health care and other costs.

Expressway Offices

In 1991-92, two expressway offices were opened in malls to give "front-of-the-line" service to customers renewing driver licences and BCIDs.

Emissions Inspection and Maintenance Program – AirCare

In response to growing health and environmental concerns, the branch assumed the lead role in the development of AirCare, a mandatory vehicle emissions control program for the province's heavily-populated Lower Mainland area. AirCare is a joint operation of the Ministry of Attorney General and the Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks, and is funded by the Sustainable Environment Fund under the overall direction of the Cabinet Committee on Sustainable Development. The program involving inspection of approximately one million light vehicles will commence official inspection September, 1992.

Police Services Branch

Assistant Deputy Minister
R.P. (Val) Pattee

Responsibility

Police Services Branch ensures that adequate and effective services are provided by the province's public police and security agencies, and by related emergency preparedness agencies. The branch also plans and coordinates provincial responses to major emergencies and disasters. To provide these services, the branch works closely with the British Columbia Police Commission; the Police and Emergency Program Academies of the Justice Institute; the RCMP (serving as the provincial police force); approximately 70 municipal police forces (including 12 autonomous departments); a number of communities; industry; and federal ministries and agencies.

Policing Policy and Programs

The Policing Policy and Programs Division recommends or coordinates legislative and other initiatives to formulate policing policy. The division also administers public funds needed for police services through a number of contract policing agreements. In addition, the division develops, operates and monitors the police-based Victim Assistance program, where volunteers support victims by helping them to deal with the immediate impact of crime and with the justice system. It is responsible for a wide range of community-based policing initiatives, including programs and activities related to crime prevention, police management information, preventive policing, and improvements to aboriginal, rural and culturally sensitive policing.

Coordinated Law Enforcement Unit

The Coordinated Law Enforcement Unit (CLEU) combats organized and major crime in the province. The division also takes the lead in developing provincial and national policy and legislation to control organized crime.

Since CLEU was established in 1974, the unit has arrested more than 2,000 individuals involved in organized crime or major criminal activity.

Provincial Emergency Program

The Provincial Emergency Program (PEP) is the agency responsible for making sure the government is prepared to respond to civil disasters, such as floods, earthquakes and landslides. The program cooperates with provincial ministries, Crown corporations and

agencies that have been assigned responsibility under law for emergency response or support. Specific PEP responsibilities include:

- coordinating provincial government planning, training and standards regarding emergency preparedness, assisted by the Inter-agency Emergency Preparedness Committee, co-chaired by the PEP director;
- advising and assisting regional and municipal governments in planning for, responding to and recovering from emergencies and disasters;
- directing government response operations – including notification, logistic support, communications and public information – for emergencies not specifically assigned to a ministry or government agency, or coordinating actions in support of a specific ministry;
- providing financial assistance to disaster victims in accordance with government guidelines; and
- supporting and assisting over 9,000 registered volunteers, along with other volunteer agencies and service groups.

Security Programs Division

The Security Programs Division administers the firearms control provisions of the *Criminal Code* which includes licensing and inspecting firearms businesses, monitoring the operation of shooting clubs, administering the firearms acquisition certificate program, storing and disposing of seized firearms, testing armoured car personnel on restricted weapon use, and advising and informing the police and the public on firearm policies and law.

The division is also responsible for the administration of the *Private Investigators and Security Agencies Act*, which includes licensing and inspecting security agencies and their employees, working with industry to develop standards for the security industry, developing policy for the administration and regulation of the private security industry, and providing information to the public and responding to complaints from the public on the operation of the private security industry.

In 1991-92, the Security Programs Division issued or renewed 774 firearms business licences, conducted 369 firearms business inspections and tested 118 armoured car guards for proficiency and safety in handling firearms. The division also received 974 firearms

for inspection and disposal, processed 24,306 firearms acquisition certificates, and issued 8,340 licences to security businesses and employees.

Highlights: 1991-92

Policing Contracts

Four years of negotiations over RCMP provincial and municipal policing contracts culminated in the March 1992 signing of an agreement valid through the year 2012. The terms increase the base cost of police services in the province, but serve to strengthen local involvement in the setting of police priorities.

Organized Crime

In 1991-92, the branch placed particular emphasis on combatting organized criminal gangs through strengthened enforcement, intelligence analysis, and research.

Emergency Response

The Provincial Emergency Program participated in the response to over 3,900 emergency incidents or events in 1991-92, including severe flooding in the Pemberton/Whistler/Squamish/Brittania Beach areas in August 1991, the Mount Robson Park Cave Rescue Operation in October 1991, and the Maple Ridge Fire in November 1991.

In addition, PEP continued to review and develop disaster plans, including the Earthquake Response Plan, Tsunami Warning Plan, Flood Response Plan, and Wildland/Urban Interface Fire Response Plan, and supported local government through $357,000 in grants to assist in the development and maintenance of municipal emergency plans. The PEP Academy also delivered over 5,700 training days in emergency preparedness training.

PROVINCIAL POLICING STATISTICS

Population Policed

Type of Force	1990	1991
Municipal Forces	2,445,251	2,515,226
Provincial Force	681,349	697,974
B.C. TOTAL	**3,126,600**	**3,213,200**

Number of Criminal Code Offences

Type of Force	1990	1991
Municipal Forces	385,596	431,542
Provincial Force	74,263	81,030
B.C. TOTAL [1]	**460,339**	**513,787**

Crime Rate (Criminal Code Offences per 1000 Population)

Type of Force	1990	1991
Municipal Forces	158	172
Provincial Force	109	116
B.C. TOTAL [1]	**147**	**160**

Authorized Police Strength

Type of Force	1990	1991
Municipal Forces	3,839	3,958
Provincial Force	1,504	1,509
B.C. TOTAL [2]	**5,343**	**5,467**

Policing Expenditures (Includes Federal Contributions)

Type of Force	1990-91	1991-92
Municipal Forces	$314,831,619	This Data
Provincial Force	$140,022,465	Is Not Yet
B.C. TOTAL	**$454,854,084**	Available

NOTE: Municipal Forces include the 12 independent municipals and the 43 RCMP municipal contracts. All figures and rates for the **Provincial Force** include RCMP provincial policing jurisdictions as well as the eight "extended" policing jurisdictions.

FOOTNOTES:

(1) British Columbia totals also include reporting by Ports Canada Police.

(2) Not included in this figure are RCMP "E" Division Administration and the RCMP Federal Force.

B.C. Board of Parole

Responsibility

The B.C. Board of Parole is an independent tribunal contributing to public safety by making decisions on the conditional release of inmates in provincial correctional centres. The board also evaluates applications for unescorted temporary absences for inmates serving more than five years, and is responsible for imposing conditions on inmates being released to mandatory supervision.

Highlights: 1991-92

In 1990, the Exchange of Services Agreement transferred conditional and statutory release authority to the B.C. Parole Board for all federal-provincial transfers. Accordingly, the board developed new policy on temporary absence programs and mandatory supervision.

The new provincial *Parole Act* and Regulation will come into force effective May 31, 1992.

To improve the responsiveness of parole decisions to the needs of native people and those of victims, a series of consultations with native communities, elders, victims, and social service agencies were initiated, laying the groundwork for ongoing public involvement.

B.C. Coroners Service

Responsibility

The B.C. Coroners Service investigates sudden and unexpected death to ensure that no death is overlooked, concealed, or ignored. The service's mandate is especially directed to the protection of those who are dependent on others for their care and custody. An investigation may result in either an inquest or an inquiry. An inquest is an independent public hearing involving a jury and the examination of witnesses under oath, required when deaths occur in prison, police custody, or mental institutions. Inquests are also held at the coroner's discretion where it serves the public interest, when there is a need to clarify evidence, or to address family or agency concerns. An inquiry comprises a full investigation and formal report of the facts and coroner's findings. A coroner's inquiry or inquest determines the identity of the deceased and clarifies the facts about the death.

The Coroners Service operates with "lay" coroners – carefully chosen individuals from various fields of expertise – under the direction of the Chief Coroner. The Chief Coroner has a staff of

approximately 150 people, including 30 full-time employees, 102 fee-for-service coroners, 11 contract coroners and six special service contracts. Regional coroners who train and supervise the local coroners also head seven regional offices, located in the major cities of the province.

The Coroners Service is divided into three main program areas:

- the Investigative Program oversees all coroners' investigations, providing specialized support for complex cases;
- the Judicial Program directs the inquest procedure and reports the findings and recommendations of inquiries and inquests to various agencies and stakeholder groups to help others in the community identify preventable causes of death; and
- the Administrative Program oversees the annual budget and administers coroners records for the province along with the case management database.

Highlights: 1991-92

In the 1991-92 year, the coroners system reviewed 9,542 deaths, 532 more than the year before. Of these reported deaths, 6,175 were investigated by either inquest or inquiry. The rest were statutorily reportable, but the circumstances did not require further study by the coroner. A total of 39 coroner's inquests were held during 1991-92.

Of the approximately 2,200 unnatural deaths reported to coroners throughout the province, 48 per cent were classified as accidents, 23 per cent as suicides, 15 per cent as homicides (here, the word homicide does not impute fault or blame, only that the death resulted – directly or indirectly – from the actions of another person), and 14 per cent as undetermined.

B.C. Gaming Commission

Responsibility

The B.C. Gaming Commission is B.C.'s licensing authority for charitable gaming. Its purpose is to set gaming policy, ensure the integrity of gaming in B.C., set the terms and conditions of licensing, issue licenses, hear appeals and conduct community meetings throughout the province.

Gaming in B.C. is highly regulated, and the commission works closely with the Public Gaming Branch to preserve the integrity of

the industry. The branch monitors gaming activity by inspecting facilities and licensees, enforcing the terms and conditions of licensing, confirming gaming proceeds are properly used and accountable, and preparing policy for the consideration of the commission.

To be granted a gaming licence, applicants must show that the proceeds from the gaming event will be used for charitable or religious purposes, and that they have a requirement for gaming revenue. Once these standards are met, the commission determines the level and location of gaming access. Casino management companies and bingo hall lessors must be registered with the commission. This process ensures the integrity of gaming and the maximum financial benefit to charitable organizations.

Highlights: 1991-92

In 1991-92, the commission rejected 162 applications; heard five appeals, down from 22 in 1990-91; reviewed 165 decisions; approved 5,855 licenses, up from 5,399 last year; and amended 1,768 licences, down from 2,150 the previous year.

Community meetings were held in Langley, Prince George, and Kelowna. The commission also held bingo seminars in Vancouver, Prince George, Parksville and Kelowna, to help licensees better manage their bingo events.

B.C. Police Commission

Responsibility

The B.C. Police Commission's five members, including the full-time Chairman and Complaint Commissioner, are appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council to ensure that the 12 independent municipal police departments deliver a high standard of policing and remain accountable to the citizens they serve. The commission oversees the citizen complaint process, advises the Attorney General, police boards and departments, conducts research, and periodically inspects municipal police departments. The commission does not have jurisdiction over the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

Highlights: 1991-92

The Complaint Commissioner inspected the handling of citizen complaints against municipal police officers in the Vancouver and

Esquimalt police departments. The commission also developed a brochure containing information on the citizen complaint process in six languages.

The commission continued its research into firearms; conducted a six-month study of Oleoresin Capsicum ("Cap-Stun"), and sponsored workshops for police officers and police board members. It also completed two reports during the year: "Special Provincial Constables: A Plan for Accountability," and "Provincial Standards for Municipal Police Departments in British Columbia."

The commission held three appeals under the *Private Investigators and Security Agents Act*, and conducted a major audit of the Esquimalt Police Department, along with a follow-up audit of the Delta Police Department. Uniform Crime Reporting audits were carried out in Delta, Matsqui, Oak Bay, New Westminster and Central Saanich. Public attitude surveys were conducted in Vancouver and Esquimalt.

British Columbia Racing Commission

Responsibility

The commission is responsible for the conduct of horse racing in the province. As of January 1992, the commission consists of seven members including representatives of the industry. Commission staff includes racing stewards and judges, veterinarians and investigators who ensure that race meets are conducted properly and that horses are well treated. Ensuring a high standard of harness and thoroughbred racing is the goal of the commission, thereby maintaining the confidence of the betting public in the industry.

Highlights: 1991-92

Most of the year was taken up with the effort to secure a new racecourse for thoroughbred racing. The commission's recommendation to Cabinet of a particular proposal to build a racecourse was accepted. Negotiations between the government and the proponent lasted throughout the summer and fall. No agreement was reached, however, and the new commission has undertaken a review of the entire matter. In addition, the commission endeavoured to prepare a recommendation to Cabinet with respect to the adoption in British Columbia of "teletheatre" betting. Several meetings and discussions were held with the industry in an effort to reach a consensus on this important enhancement to racing. No consensus was achieved; however, the

new commission has recommended that "teletheatre" betting be implemented in British Columbia and is continuing the efforts in this regard.

The commission conducted 18 formal hearings during the 1991-92 fiscal year and issued 5,500 licences to people engaged in the horse racing industry at operating race tracks. The board of judges at the standardbred tracks and the board of stewards at the thoroughbred tracks issued 397 rulings relating to rule violations.

Although racing has generally been losing fan support at all tracks, with the exception of the interior racing circuit which encompasses Osoyoos, Princeton, Vernon and Kamloops, support on Vancouver Island has reflected the most drastic decline in both attendance and wagering.

The commission is presently involved in a discussion with both the thoroughbred and standardbred sectors in an effort to generate more interest in the industry. This may ultimately alter horse racing on Vancouver Island.

1991-92 RACING STATISTICS WITH PERCENTAGE COMPARISONS TO THE PREVIOUS YEAR

Track	# of Days	Total Amount Wagered	Daily Average	% Change	Average Daily Attendance	% Change
Exhibition Park	121	$140,881,027	$1,164,306	- 5.3	5,881	- 7.3
Sandown Park (thoroughbred)	12	1,828,834	152,402	- 5.7	2,001	- 10.4
Cloverdale Raceway	106	50,627,054	477,614	- 1.0	2,475	- 1.5
Sandown Raceway (standardbred)	50	5,387,568	107,751	- 17.7	1,352	- 18.1
Lower Fraser Valley Exhibition Association	9	1,156,263	128,474	+ 29.2	1,060	+ 9.1
Sagebrush Downs, Kamloops	18	915,128	50,840	+ 1.6	777	- 3.7
Kinsmen Park, Vernon	17	1,009,886	59,405	+ 8.3	1,113	- 19.1
Desert Park, Osoyoos	4	148,012	37,003	+ 9.4	953	+ 10.0
Sunflower Downs, Princeton	2	90,067	45,033	- 1.2	1,043	- 7.2

British Columbia Review Board

Responsibility

The Order-In-Council Patients' Review Board was abolished effective February 5, 1992, and its duties were taken over by the British Columbia Review Board. The board reviews the circumstances of those who have been charged with an offence, but are found by the courts to be unfit to stand trial or not guilty on account of insanity. The board makes recommendations to Cabinet on the person's fitness to stand trial and, in the case of a person found not guilty on account of insanity, what action is required to gradually return the individual to the community, in a manner consistent with her or his mental state and the interests of the public.

Commercial Appeals Commission

Responsibility

The Commercial Appeals Commission has jurisdiction to hear appeals under 13 different provincial statutes.

Highlights: 1991-92

Appeals Received	20
Appeals Withdrawn	2
Hearings Held	16
Sitting Days	16
Hearings by Written Submissions	1
Hearings Pending	1

Criminal Injury Compensation Program

Responsibility

Administered by the Workers' Compensation Board of B.C., the Criminal Injury Compensation program compensates people injured when victimized by crime, or when trying to prevent an offence, make an arrest, or assist a police officer in making an arrest. If a person is killed under either of these circumstances, his or her family may be compensated. The *Criminal Injury Compensation Act* authorizes the program to determine if a person is entitled to compensation, and to determine the form and amount of the award.

Highlights: 1991-92

The program received 4,450 applications, 287 more than the previous year, and 1,784 applications were carried forward from 1990-91. The program also allowed 2,322 awards, down from 2,379 in 1990-91, and granted 236 supplementary awards with respect to previously judged claims. Of the 6,234 applications to be considered, 3,115 were resolved, leaving 3,119 applications to be carried forward to the 1992-93 year. Awards were allowed in 2,322 cases, 530 applications were disallowed, and 263 applicants did not proceed with their cases. About 43 per cent of the allowed cases related to sex offenses, including sexual abuse of children and indecent assaults.

Payments

Pain and Suffering	$8,717,139
Medical Aid	3,556,238
Wage loss and Rehabilitation	2,459,396
Pecuniary loss dependents (widows and children)	863,882
TOTAL	**$15,596,655**

Expropriation Compensation Board

Responsibility

Expropriation occurs when public agencies, such as the provincial government, Crown corporations, regional districts, school districts, municipalities or public utilities, need to obtain property which an owner does not wish to sell. The Expropriation Compensation Board has the authority under the *Expropriation Act* to determine the amount of money to be paid for expropriated land when the settlement amount is questioned by a private landowner.

Highlights: 1991-92

In 1991-92, the Expropriation Compensation Board received 120 applications for land compensation claims, 50 more than in 1990-91. The largest number of applications came from landowners affected by Ministry of Transportation and Highways road expansion projects.

Law Reform Commission of British Columbia

Responsibility

The Law Reform Commission reviews the laws of British Columbia and recommends improvements. The commission works to repeal unnecessary or outmoded legislation, eliminate irregularities, reduce the number of separate statutes and, in general, simplify and modernize the law.

Highlights: 1991-92

The Law Reform Commission completed and submitted reports to the Attorney General in 1991-92 covering such issues as apartment corporations and claims in foreign currencies. The commission also recommended comprehensive legislation to achieve a fair distribution of pension rights upon marriage breakdown, and concluded a major project on the enforcement of judgments from other Canadian provinces.

Legal Services Society

Responsibility

The Legal Services Society provides legal aid to individuals who cannot afford a lawyer and legal information and education to all British Columbians. The Native Programs Branch provides legal services to aboriginal people. Regional diversities are served through 37 community offices and 21 area directors. Two major public consultation processes – Access for All and the Public Legal Education Forum – are helping to shape future services. The provincial government and the Law Foundation are the society's major sources of funds.

Highlights: 1991-92

The society responded to a dramatic increase in demand for services. Over 112,000 people applied for legal aid, a 25 per cent increase over the previous year, and 72,000 people qualified for lawyers services, a 26 per cent increase over the previous year.

Two new services were established: a legal tariff for immigration matters and advocacy services were extended to people confined under the *Mental Health Act*.

Fees paid to private lawyers handling legal aid cases were doubled.

A task force to review the relationship of legal services to aboriginal people was established.

Liquor Appeal Board

Responsibility

The Liquor Appeal Board hears both licensing and enforcement appeals under the *Liquor Control and Licensing Act*, governed by the Liquor Appeal Board (Control and Licensing) Regulation. It also hears appeals on listing and delisting decisions of the General Manager of the Liquor Distribution Branch under the *Liquor Distribution Act*, governed by the Liquor Appeal Board (Listing/Delisting) Regulation.

Highlights: 1991-92

Appeals Received	56
Appeals Withdrawn	15
Hearings Held	36*
Sitting Days	38
Pending	13

* This figure includes eight hearings from 1990-91.

Motion Picture Appeal Board

Responsibility

The Motion Picture Appeal Board hears appeals by exhibitors and distributors of motion pictures and videos concerning decisions rendered by the Film Classification Branch. Both the Appeal Board and the branch operate under the authority of the *Motion Picture Act*. The board held four hearings in 1991-92.

Motor Carrier Commission

Responsibility

The Motor Carrier Commission regulates the for-hire motor carrier industry (trucks, taxis, buses) in B.C. The commission may make investigations, inquiries, regulations and orders necessary to promote efficient service, reasonable tariffs, safety on the highways, and the economic stability of B.C.'s transportation industry.

Applications for new license authority or revisions to existing authority are filed with the Motor Carrier Division, which performs certain investigative and clerical tasks for the commission. The commission decides on all applications, and if necessary, sets an application down for public hearing and investigation.

Highlights: 1991-92

During 1991-92, the commission processed 2,987 applications, conducted 106 public hearings – 23 more than the year before – and generated $4,755,576 in revenue, an increase of $220,461 over 1990-91.

Annual Budget (Restated) and Full-Time Staff 1991-92

	Budget ($)	Staff (#)
Minister's Office	$ 562,791	10.00
Ministry Operations		
Corrections Branch	176,943,698	2,250.20
Court Services Branch	106,158,115	1,260.00
Criminal Justice Branch	29,698,633	253.75
Elections B.C.	3,201,443	42.00
Executive Office	758,543	6.00
Film Classification Branch	747,812	10.00
Justice Support Programs	63,169,260	269.50
Legal Services Branch	16,604,012	118.00
Liquor Control and Licensing Branch	4,302,023	72.00
Management Services Branch	30,503,794	244.55
Motor Vehicle Branch	51,135,805	686.00
Police Services Branch	122,967,866	124.50
Public Gaming Branch	2,979,143	42.00
Boards and Commissions		
B.C. Board of Review	$ 297,414	2.00
B.C. Gaming Commission	548,642	3.00
B.C. Parole Board	718,925	6.00
B.C. Police Commission	1,260,274	10.00
B.C. Racing Commission	10	14.00
Commercial Appeals Commission	216,891	1.00
Coroners Service	7,317,434	30.00
Criminal Injury Compensation	7,625,000	0.00
Expropriation Compensation Board	324,825	2.00
Law Reform Commission	577,361	4.00
Liquor Appeal Board	142,084	N/A
Motion Picture Appeal Board	72,098	N/A
Motor Carrier Commission	467,905	4.00
Crown Proceeding Act*	$ 966,200	N/A
Judiciary		
Provincial Courts	$ 18,679,086	41.50
Superior Courts	6,439,412	88.00
Emergency Assistance	$ 803,500	N/A
Special Accounts		
Corrections Work Program	$ 1,100,000	N/A
Office of the Public Trustee	8,642,001	N/A
TOTAL	**$ 665,932,000**	**5,594.00**

*Crown Proceeding Act: These are payments made as a result of cases against the Crown.

Acts Administered by the Attorney General of British Columbia

Accountants (Management) Act
(Section 11(3) only)
Age of Majority Act
Architects Act (Section 24(1) only)
Attorney General Act
Builders' Lien Act
Civil Rights Protection Act
Commercial Appeals Commission Act
Commercial Arbitration Act
Commercial Tenancy Act
Commercial Transport Act
Company Act (Section 348 only)
Condominium Act (only powers and
duties of Registrar of Titles)
Conflict of Laws Rules for Trusts Act
Constitution Act (except 25, 26, 27)
Constitutional Question Act
Coroners Act
Correction Act
County Boundary Act
Court Agent Act
Court of Appeal Act
Court Order Enforcement Act
Court Order Interest Act
Court Rules Act
Criminal Code (Canada)
(Section 207 only)
Criminal Injury Compensation Act
Crown Counsel Act
Crown Franchise Act
Crown Proceeding Act
Curfew Act
Disciplinary Authority Protection Act
Election Act
Electoral Boundaries Commission Act
Electoral Districts Act
Emergency Program Act
Engineers and Geoscientists Act
(Section 8 (2) only)
Escheat Act
Estate Administration Act
Estates of Missing Persons Act
Evidence Act
Expropriation Act
Family Compensation Act
Family Maintenance Enforcement Act
Family Relations Act
Federal Courts Jurisdiction Act
Financial Disclosure Act
Firearm Act
Flood Relief Act
Foreign Arbitral Awards Act
Foreign Money Claims Act
Foresters Act (Section 9(2) only)
Fraudulent Conveyance Act
Fraudulent Preference Act
Frustrated Contract Act
Good Samaritan Act
Holiday Shopping Regulation Act
Homestead Act
Horse Racing Act
Inquiry Act
Infants Act
International Sale of Goods Act
International Trusts Act
Interpretation Act
Judicial Review Procedure Act
Jury Act
Justice Administration Act
Land Act (Spouse Protection)
Land Title Act (except 214(1)(c))
Land Title Inquiry Act
Land Transfer Form Act
Law and Equity Act
Law Reform Commission Act
Legal Profession Act
Legal Services Society Act
Libel and Slander Act
Limitation Act
Liquor Control and Licensing Act
Liquor Distribution Act
Members' Conflict of Interest Act
Ministry of Provincial Secretary and
Government Services Act
(Sections 2(1), (2), (4) and
(5), 3, 5, 6 and 7 only)
Motion Picture Act
Motor Carrier Act
(except 52(1) (2) (3) (5) (6) (7))
Motor Vehicle Act
Municipal Act (Part 20 only)
National Cablevision Limited
Transfer of Jurisdiction Act
Negligence Act

Notaries Act
Occupiers Liability Act
Offence Act
Ombudsman Act
Parole Act
Partition of Property Act
Patients Property Act
Pawnbrokers Act
Perpetuity Act
Police Act
Power of Appointment Act
Power of Attorney Act
Privacy Act
Private Investigators and Security Agencies Act
Probate Recognition Act
Property Law Act
Provincial Court Act
Public Trustee Act
Queen's Counsel Act
Referendum Act
Regulations Act
Rent Distress Act
Sales on Consignment Act
Senatorial Selection Act
Senior Citizen Automobile Insurance Grant Act
Sheriff Act
Small Claims Act
Statute Revision Act
Statute Uniformity Act
Subpoena (Interprovincial) Act
Supreme Court Act
Survivorship and Presumption of Death Act
Teaching Profession Act (Section 24(1) only)
Transport of Dangerous Goods Act
Trespass Act
Trust and Settlement Variation Act
Trustee Act
Trustee Act (Church Property)
Victims' Rights and Services Act
Wills Act (except Part 2)
Wills Variation Act
Young Offenders Act (British Columbia)